

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

The City Of Augusta

Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION of the “350th Anniversary of the Jewish Community in America and the 150th Year of the Augusta Jewish Community Center”

WHEREAS, in 1654, 23 impoverished and persecuted Jews from Recife, Brazil, arrived in North America; and

WHEREAS, September 2004 marked the 350th Anniversary of Jewish settlement in the United States and 2004 marks the 150th Anniversary of the Augusta Jewish Community Center; and

WHEREAS, generations of Jews of diverse backgrounds and persuasions, who fled oppression and embraced opportunity; who escaped persecution and found freedom; who shunned indignity and pursued equality for themselves and their descendants have found their home in this nation of immigrants; and

WHEREAS, throughout the history of Augusta, Georgia, Jews have participated creatively and industriously in every facet of our community, building schools, libraries, hospitals, houses of worship, and enterprises of every description; and

WHEREAS, all citizens of Augusta, Georgia, can be proud of the part our Jewish community of Augusta, Georgia, has played in championing religious liberty and human rights for all peoples; and

WHEREAS, the Young Men’s Hebrew Association, founded in 1854, 150 years ago, now known as the Augusta Jewish Community Center and being the second oldest Jewish Community Center in this nation, can be proud of providing Jewish cultural, educational and social opportunities to all citizens of Augusta.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Augusta, do hereby proclaim the year of 2004 to be “CELEBRATE 350 YEAR” in Augusta, Georgia, and call upon all citizens to join in marking the 350th Anniversary of Jews in America and the 150th Anniversary of the Augusta Jewish Community Center with public ceremonies and in all other appropriate ways to take part in the observance of these great anniversaries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Augusta, Georgia, to be affixed this 13th day of November 2004.

Mayor